TM-4 APPROVER COURSE

USING NASA'S TRAVEL MANAGER SYSTEM

APPROVE AN AUTHORIZATION

This document covers the steps to approve an authorization.

Trip Information

Traveler is not authorized as a cardholder.

Lodging includes actual costs for lodging that are higher than the Per Diem allocation.

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A. REVIEW DOCUMENTS

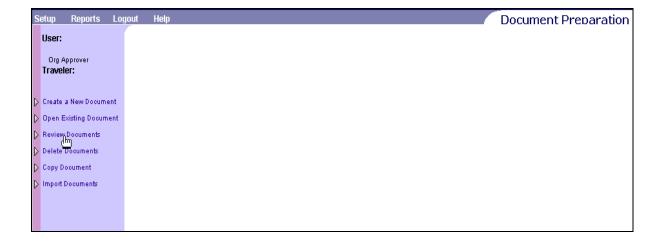
The Approver will receive an e-mail message that a document needs attention in the Travel Manager system. The e-mail will contain the name of the document and the name of the Traveler

NOTE

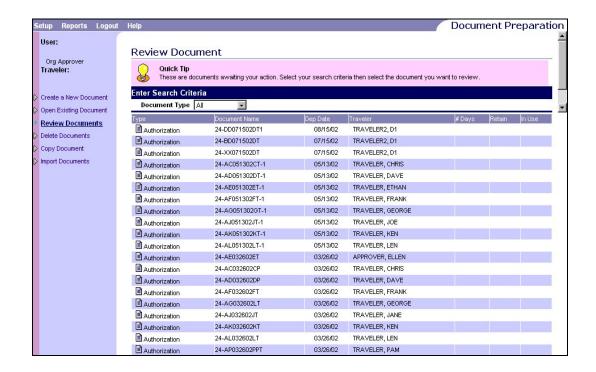
The approval path is determined by the "funding organization". The Approver may receive approval requests for documents of travelers from other organizations.

The approver logs onto the Travel Manager system. The following page will be displayed. Make sure your name is displayed in the top left hand corner under the word **User:**

1. Click the **Review Documents** link on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page.



2. The **Review Document** page is displayed with a list of all documents that need to be reviewed.



3. The type of document to approve can be specified by making the appropriate selection in the **Document Type** drop down list. Only documents of that type will be displayed for review. "**All**" is the Document Type default.

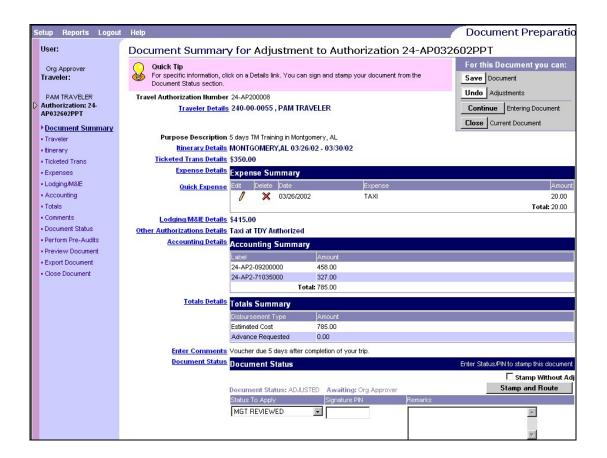
NOTE

All documents are listed in order by departure date. The departure dates are displayed in reverse chronological order by document type.

4. Click the **Open Document** icon next to a Travel Authorization Document Name listed. The **Open Document Signature** page will be displayed for the document selected.



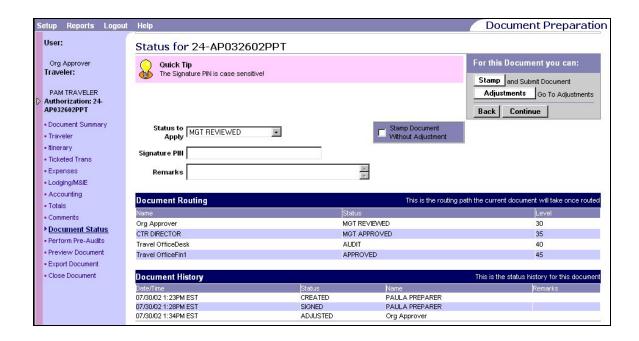
- 5. The document can be opened for adjustment/signing by entering the signature of the user opening the document or it can be viewed without adjustment by clicking the **Document as View Only** button in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right. (No signature is required for view only.)
- 6. Enter the Signature PIN in the Signature for Adjustment field.
- 7. Click the sign to Review Document button in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right. The Document Summary for Adjustment to Travel Authorizations page is displayed for the selected document.



8. The **Document Summary for Adjustment to Travel Authorizations** page summarizes the information on the travel authorization. Use the scroll bar to the right to view the information at the bottom of the page. All of the data entered can be viewed in detail from this page by selecting the appropriate detail, along the left of the summary information. To return to this page after viewing any other page, click on the **Document Summary** link on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page.

B. **DOCUMENT STATUS**

1. Click on the **Document Status** link on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page. The **Status** page is displayed.



- 2. For the approvers that have multiple signing values, check the default status value in the **Status to Apply** pull down list.
- 3. Check the **Document Routing** area. The approver's name should be listed with the status matching the **Status to Apply**. The **Document Routing** area shows what has not yet occurred to the document.
- 4. Check any remarks entered in the **Document History** area on the Status page for prior comments made by approvers or reviewers. The **Document History** area shows what has already happened to the document.
- 5. Click on the **Document Summary** link, on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page, to return to the **Document Summary** page.

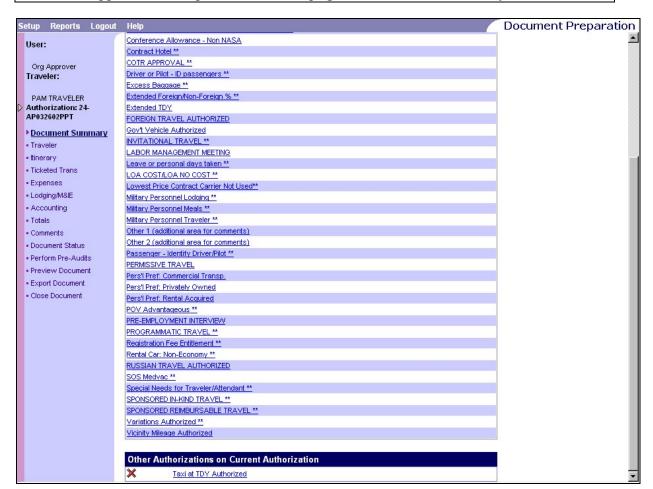
C. OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS DETAILS

- 1. The **Document Summary** page must be displayed to click on the **Other Authorizations Details** link located above and to the left of the Accounting Summary area. This is the only page the **Other Authorizations Detail** link is available on an authorization for the approver. The link is located in the middle of the detail links list.
- 2. Click the **Other Authorizations Details** link. The **Other Authorizations** page will be displayed.

NOTE

The Other Authorizations with a double asterisk indicate that additional information is required on the authorization.

The Approver must open the **Remarks** page to view the additional information.



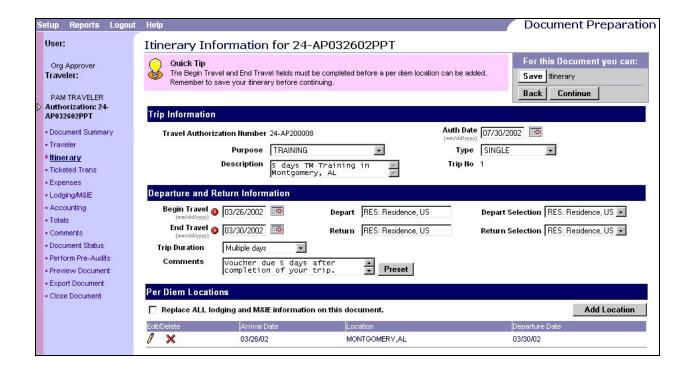
- 3. Check all other authorizations selected at the bottom of the page in the **Other Authorizations On Current Travel Authorization** area. These are the Other Authorizations that have been selected and need to be approved.
- 4. Select each Other Authorization that contains double asterisks (**) for the current document by clicking on the name of the Other Authorization in the **Other Authorizations on Current Travel Authorization** area.
- 5. The **Other Authorization Remarks** page will be displayed. The remarks are the justifications for other authorizations that the approver is required to view. Ensure that the remarks are correct. Enter any additional remarks as required.



6. Click the Save Remarks button, in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right, if changes were made or click the Cancel Changes button, in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right, to exit. The Other Authorizations page will be displayed again.

D. ITINERARY

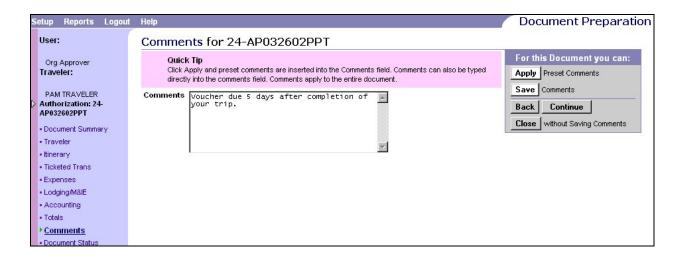
1. Click on the **Itinerary** link, on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page, to view the trip itinerary.



2. Review the trip purpose, departure and return information, and per diem locations of the trip.

E. COMMENTS

1. The approver can also review comments. Click the **Comments** link, on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page, to display the **Comments page**.



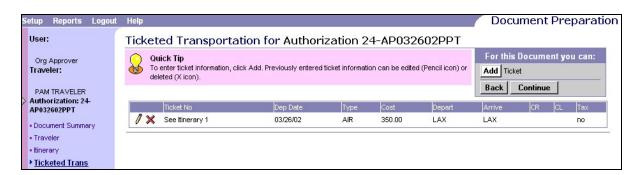
2. Click the close without Saving Comments button, in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right, to exit from the Comments page.

NOTE

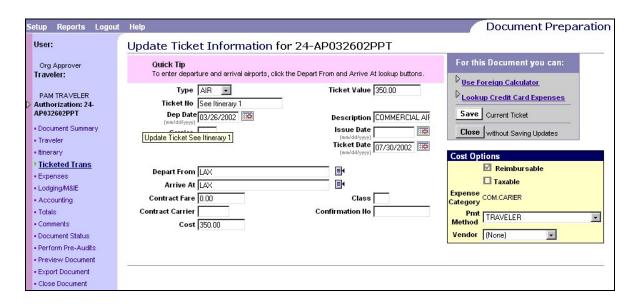
Clicking the Apply Preset Comments icon in the 'For this Document you can;' area will override any comments in the comments box. Recommend that it not be used.

F. TICKETED TRANSPORTATION

1. Click on the **Ticketed Trans** link, on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page, to review travel modes. The **Ticketed Transportation** page is displayed.



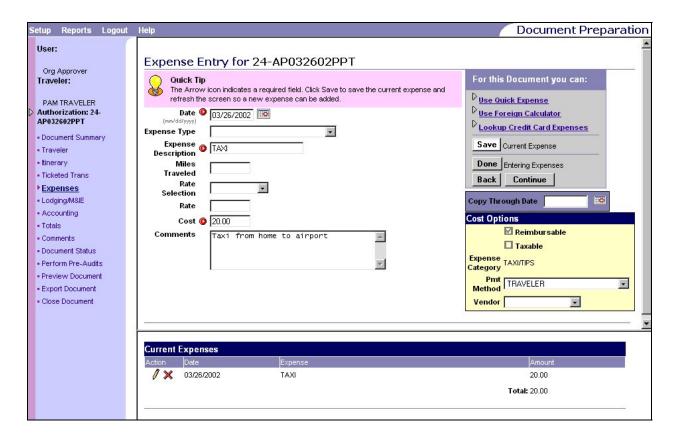
2. Click on the **Pencil** icon to view the detail information for the desired record. The **Update Ticket Information** page will be displayed. Be sure to check the departure dates for the transportation mode.



- 3. The **Cost Options** area is displayed in the lower right corner of the page.
- 4. Verify the **Pmt Method** for the traveler's status is correct.
- 5. If changes were made in the **Update Ticket Information** page, click the Save Current **Ticket** button in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right. The **Ticketed Transportation** page will be displayed.

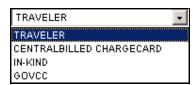
G. EXPENSES

- 1. Click the **Expenses** link, on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page, to view the expenses.
- 2. The **Expense Entry** page will be displayed. Be sure to review the dates for each expense.



- 3. Check that all expenses are reasonable and allowed by regulation.
 - a. If an expense should be deleted, use the **Delete** icon beside the specific expense to remove it from the list.
 - b. Click on any **Pencil** icon beside the specific expense to view the detail information for the expense.
- 4. The **Cost Options** area will be displayed on the bottom right of the page for each expense.
 - a. Verify the **Pmt Method** for the traveler's status.

- b. **TRAVELER** is the default reimbursable payment type, in the **Pmt Method** pull down list.
- c. The **TRAVELER** payment method is reimbursable to the Traveler.
- d. If any other payment type is selected, the expense cost will not be reimbursable to the Traveler.



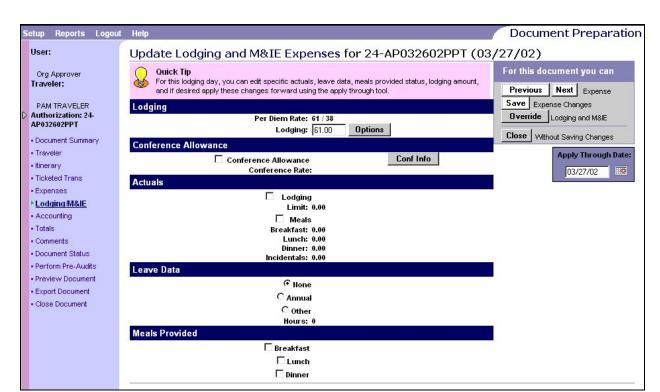
5. Click Current Expenses, in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right, if changes were made or the Entering Expenses button in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right.

H. LODGING/M&IE

1. Click the **Lodging/M&IE** link, on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page, to view the costs associated with lodging and meals. The **Lodging/M&IE** page will be displayed. Review all expenses for each day.



- 2. If a value exists in any columns to the right of the **Per Diem Rate** column, modifications have been made to the Lodging and/or M&IE for that date.
 - a. A single asterisk (*) in the Special column indicates a lodging cost higher than per diem, annual leave used, or meals over the meal cost allocation.
 - b. The columns **B**, **L**, **D** represent Breakfast (B), Lunch (L), or Dinner (D). If there is an 'X' in the column then the meal was provided and the meal allocation will be reduced on the day indicated.
 - c. **Conf** % indicates that there is a conference allowance and what the percentage is over per diem.
- 3. Click on the **Pencil** icon next to any date, to view the detail information for the selected date.



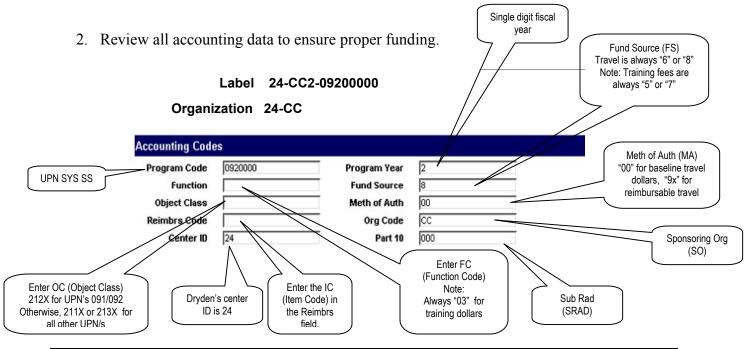
4. The **Update Lodging and M&IE Expenses** page will be displayed.

- 5. Review any expenses to verify costs from the **Update Lodging and M&IE Expenses** page.
- 6. Review annual leave data to verify that DFRC's annual leave rule (1 day of leave per day of TDY) is adhered to.
- 7. Click the Close Without Saving Changes button, in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right, to exit from the Update Lodging and M&IE Expenses page.

I. ACCOUNTING

1. Click the **Accounting** link, on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page, to review the accounting information. The **Available Accounting Codes** page will be displayed.



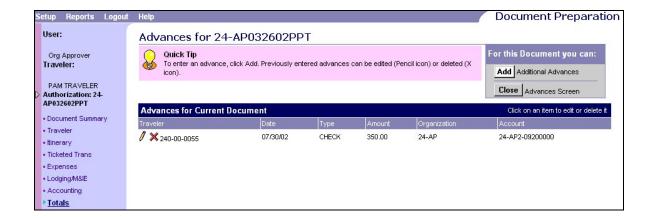


J. TOTALS

1. Click the **Totals** link, on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page, to review total charges, itemized detail of expense categories charges, and any requested advance. The **Total Details** page will be displayed.



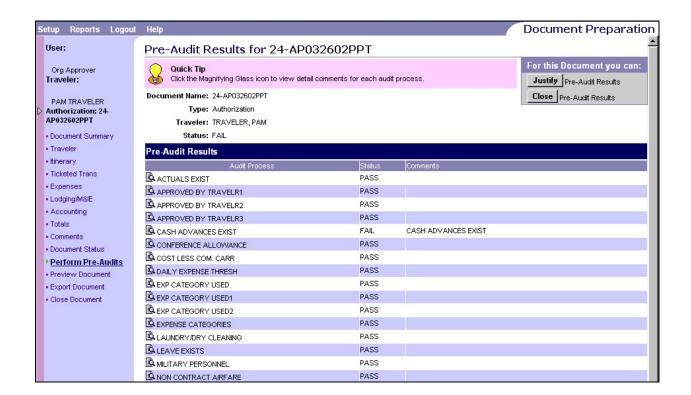
- 2. If an advance has been requested, click the **View Advances for Document** link, in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right, to review the accounting data.
- 3. The **Advances** page will be displayed.



4. Click the Close Advances Screen button, in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right, to exit the page.

K. PERFORM PRE-AUDITS

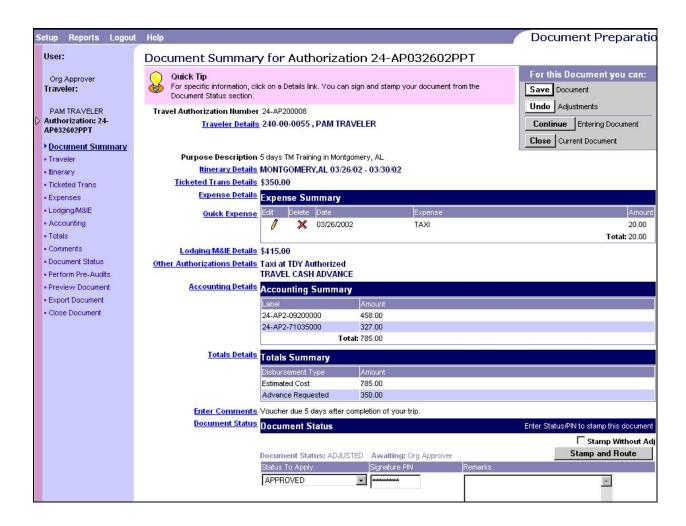
1. To run the Pre-Audits Results, click the **Perform Pre-Audit** link on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page. Look at all the audit processes with a 'FAIL' in the **Status** column.



2. If any audit fails, the word 'FAIL' will be in the **Status** column. A comment describing the failure will appear in the **Comments** column. A 'FAIL' may actually be a warning to draw attention to a particular process to ensure the approver has checked the item. Click the **Close Pre-Audit Results** button, in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right, to exit the **Pre-Audit Results** page. The **Document Summary** page will be displayed.

L. <u>DOCUMENT SUMMARY</u>

- 1. To print a Document.
 - a. Click on the **Preview Document** link on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page.
 - b. The browser launches a new window to display the report.
 - c. Use the browser and/or reader **Print** button to print a paper copy of the travel document if desired.
 - d. Close the print preview window. The **Document Summary** page will still be displayed.
- 2. The **Document Status** area for stamping the document is located at the bottom of the **Document Summary** page.



- 3. If the document is approved, stamp the document using the default value.
- 4. If the document is disapproved, click on the **Status to Apply** pull down list and select "**RETURN**". The document will be returned to the preparer for adjustments.



Definitions of the Status to Apply labels

Status to Apply Label	Definition	Used by
APPROVED	Final, traveler is authorized	Last Approver in routing list – Finance Office Only
CANCEL	Document is cancelled	Approver or Preparer
CTO APPROVED	CTO Approved	CTO Approver
CTO REVIEWED	CTO Reviewed	CTO Reviewer
DISBURSED	Email to traveler – expect reimbursement	Financial Office Only
MGT APPROVED	Approved by manager/designee	Organization's Manager/Center Director or Designee
MGT REVIEWED	Reviewed by manager/designee	Organization's Manager/Funds Manager or Designee
RETURN	Document needs additional information	Approver/Reviewer
REVIEWED	Conditional	Conditional Reviewers
SIGNED	Document ready to be routed	Preparer or Traveler

5. Enter the Signature PIN in the Signature PIN field.

- 6. Enter "Approved" or "Disapproved" with any additional comments in the Remarks field
- 7. If **NO** adjustments have been made to the document, click the **Stamp Without Adj** check box to place a ' $\sqrt{}$ ' in the box. If adjustments were made to the document, leave the box unchecked.

NOTE

If the **Stamp Without Adj** box <u>is not</u> checked when the document is stamped, <u>adjustments are</u> <u>assumed</u>, regardless if any changes have been made.

If the **Stamp Without Adj** box <u>is</u> checked when the document is stamped and adjustments were made, all changes <u>will be erased</u>.

8. Click the Stamp and Route button under the **Document Status** area on the right side of the page. The **Pre-Audit Results** page will be displayed.



- 9. Review the Pre-Audits. If any audit fails, the word 'FAIL' will be in the **Status** column. A comment describing the failure will appear in the **Comments** column. A 'FAIL' may actually be a warning to draw attention to a particular process to ensure the approver has checked the particular items that pertain to the document.
- 10. Click the **Stamping the Document** button in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right. The document will be routed to the next approver.

NOTE

Click on the Cancel button, in the 'For this Document you can:' area in the top right, if changes are necessary prior to signing. The document will not be signed and will not route to the next office. The document will remain in the Approver's queue.

11. If more documents reside in the review queue, click on the **Review Documents** link, on the Document Processing Toolbar on the left side of the page, and repeat the above steps.